

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Congresswoman Matsui Announces Nearly \$800,000 for Local Family Development Services

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Today, Congresswoman Doris Matsui (CA-5) announced that the Relationship Skills Center, a Sacramento-based relationship education non-profit, has been awarded \$798,825 through the United States Department of Health and Human Services to provide relationship and family stability educational services.

Awarded through the Administration for Children and Families-Healthy Marriage Initiative, this funding will be used by the Relationship Skills Center to provide evidence based relationship education classes and case management services to help families improve their marriage and relationship skills, achieve career and economic stability, and connect families with a variety of community resources.

"We are thrilled to receive this grant. In the last five years we have helped 735 couples form healthy, stable, safe families," said Carolyn Curtis, Ph.D., Executive Director of the Relationship Skills Center. "This grant will make it possible for us to reach 900 more families in the next year. We will help kids grow up with parents who love them and each other, and have the skills to make their family last."

"For the last five years, the Relationship Skills Center has been helping couples and families cope with some of life's most challenging obstacles," said Congresswoman Doris Matsui. "This

federal investment will give hundreds of couples and families across the region the tools to work through their challenges, and become better partners not only to each other, but for our community.”

The Administration for Children and Families—Healthy Marriage Initiative is a federal program designed to help couples gain greater access to marriage education services where they can acquire the skills and knowledge necessary to form and sustain a healthy marriage. Funding through this program may be used for competitive research and demonstration projects by public and private organizations to test promising approaches to encourage healthy marriages and promote involved, committed, and responsible fatherhood.

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